

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

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R 231550Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2141

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 0625

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, TU

SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND PRIMIN DEMIREL ON LEGAL
AND CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURES FOR DOMESTIC SECURITY

REF (A) ANKARA 483, (B) ANKARA 409

1. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MEETING JANUARY 22, HAS
DECIDED TO PRESENT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITH NEW BILLS ON
THE STATE SECURITY COURTS, THE UNIVERSITIES, COASTAL
SECURITY, AND THE PREVENTION OF ARMS SMUGGLING, IN ORDER
TO FILL GAPS CREATED BY CONSTITUTIONAL COURT RULINGS.
ACCORDING TO A STATEMENT ISSUED FOLLOWING THE MEETING, THE
COUNCIL WILL ALSO PRESS FOR THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION
CLARIFYING PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 15, 16 AND 30 OF THE
TURKISH CONSTITUTION (ARTICLE 15 AND 16 CONCERN PERSONAL
PRIVACY AND THE IMMUNITY OF DOMICILE; ARTICLE 30 CONCERNS
THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS DETAINED UPON SUSPICION OF CRIME.)
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS STATEMENT EXPRESSED THE HOPE
THAT THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WOULD "CREATE NEW
POSSIBILITIES FOR EFFECTIVELY COMBATTING ARMED INCIDENTS,
SECRET ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE FOCAL POINTS OF ANARCHY."

2. LATER THE SAME DAY, FOLLOWING A JOINT MEETING OF THE
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JUSTICE PARTY (JP) ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD AND THE GOVERNING

COUNCILS OF THE JP SENATE AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY GROUPS, DEMIREL TOLD THE PRESS THE 1961 TURKISH CONSTITUTION NEEDS REVISION. ACCORDING TO MILLIYET, DEMIREL DECLARED, "TURKEY CANNOT BE GOVERNED WITH THE CONSTITUTION WHICH IS NOW IN EFFECT." THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT "IN ORDER TO SUPPRESS ANARCHISTIC EVENTS AND TO SAFEGUARD THE WORKINGS OF ORGANIZATIONS, IT IS NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION. WE CHANGED THE CONSTITUTION A GREAT DEAL BUT THIS WAS NOT (RPT NOT) SUFFICIENT." DEMIREL CONCLUDED THAT, "IN ORDER TO CREATE THE GREAT TURKEY IT IS NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION." ON DOMESTIC SECURITY, DEMIREL SAID "WE (THE NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT) WILL DIG UP THE ROOT OF ANARCHY. WE SHALL TAKE ALL NECESSARY LEGAL MEASURES FOR THIS END. WE SHALL BRING ABOUT CHANGES IN THE LAW. WE SHALL INCREASE THE POLICE FORCES." WHILE PRAISING THE ARMED FORCES AS "COMPLETELY ATTACHED TO THE REPUBLIC AND TO DEMOCRACY," DEMIREL ACCUSED THE OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) OF "IRRESPONSIBILITY" AND ASKED RHETORICALLY, "WHY DID IT (THE RPP) ABANDON THE GOVERNMENT? WHAT DOES IT WANT NOW?"

3. COMMENT: THE STATEMENTS MADE BY PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONTINUE A RECENT GOVERNMENT THEME THAT TURKEY CANNOT BE GOVERNED AND INTERNAL SECURITY MAINTAINED UNDER THE LIMITATIONS OF THE PRESENT LAWS AND CONSTITUTION. THIS COULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH RECENT STATEMENTS RELEASED BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PROBLEMS OF VIOLENCE WILL BE RESOLVED WITH THE PRESENT LAWS AND CONSTITUTION (REFTELS).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ANKARA00625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760027-0558
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760130/aaaaazmi.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ANKARA 483, 76 ANKARA 409
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND PRIME MINISTERS ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURES FOR DOMESTIC SECURITY
TAGS: PINT, PINS, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006